



## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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### Situation Report

#### Flash Flooding

August 23, 2007, 9am

Updates are in Bold Faced Type

#### SUMMARY

The remnants of Tropical Storm Erin, now an intense low pressure system, moved from Oklahoma into Missouri along the I-44 corridor. This storm dumped 8-11 inches of rain in a very short span in Southwest Missouri. Among the counties hardest hit were Dade, Lawrence and Polk Counties. Missouri State Water Patrol has assisted local communities in swift water rescue throughout the area. One fatality was reported by officials in Laclede County. A car went into the water after a bridge washed out. The driver's body was recovered early Monday evening about two miles downstream from the culvert /roadway wash out. The victim was a United States Postal employee delivering rural mail. **Joint Federal/State Damage Assessments will start as early as next week. (This is to determine whether a Presidential Declaration of Disaster can be designated for this storm.)**

#### County Reports

**Dade County**— Several roads and bridges in the County are underwater (both north and south part of the counties). Estimated local rain amounts to 8-11 inches of rain. Damage assessments were estimated to exceed 1.3 million dollars. This was primarily roads and bridges.

**Dallas County**—Several roads and bridges damaged throughout the county. Preliminary estimate would be about 2 million.

**Greene County**— Several roads and at least one bridge washed out in Northern Greene County (Ash Grove and Walnut Grove Area). City Utilities of Springfield reported about 5,000 customers were without power when two substations were hit with lightning strikes Monday. Most of these customers have been returned to service. Though some heavily damaged roadways remain closed, the Greene County Highway Department reports most roads that were under water Monday are now passable, though many areas are rough with broken pavement and debris. Damaged assessment continues and estimates should be completed Thursday or Friday.

**Laclede County**— One fatality has been reported (see above). Numerous water rescues were reported to Laclede County officials. Joel E. Barber School reported water in the building. Laclede County EOC reported minor damage due to water seepage. A private dam failed in southeastern Laclede County causing road damage. Many numerous bridges and culvert systems have failed. Damage assessments continue throughout today (Wednesday). MoDOT will assist in inspecting bridges throughout the county. Two MoDOT assisted Laclede County and provided engineering support for the local damage assessment teams. **Local damage assessments for bridges and roads stands at 5.5 million dollars**

**Lawrence County**—Officials report several roads with four feet of water over them. Miller School reported flooding damage. Some homes with flood damage, but all are habitable. Five people rescued from high water, one rescue by Missouri State Water Patrol. Damage assessments will not completed until Friday (24August 2007).

**Polk County**— State Highway 13 is closed in two places. Several county roads are closed due to high water. One fire destroyed a home. Over a dozen highway accidents and four rescues, but no fatalities. Pleasant Hope area closed, but water is receding. Eight rescues by Missouri State Water Patrol. A shelter was opened in Pleasant Hope, after a water main break. Many school bus routes were curtailed as extensive damage to roads in southern Polk County caused it to

be unsafe for school buses to use the highways. Several homes damaged as well as low-water crossings. Estimates of damages exceed 3.6 million. **Local officials estimate 5 homes destroyed, 33 homes with major damage, 32 with minor damage and 4 businesses with major damage.**

**Webster County** – Many bridges and roads were damaged. Preliminary damages estimated ½ million dollars.

***Please Note: These estimates are all new damages and not left over damage from previous storms. These estimates are all from local jurisdictions and may or may not agree with the Joint Federal/State Preliminary Damage Assessments.***

#### **State Actions**

MoDOT – Transportation has dispatched bridge and road inspection teams to Laclede County where most all roads have suffered damages.

Missouri State Highway Patrol – MSHP has resumed normal operations..

Missouri State Water Patrol - MSWP has resumed normal operations.

Missouri Information Analysis Center – MIAC has resumed normal operations

**SEMA personnel are on-site assisting local jurisdictions in their Preliminary Damage Assessments.**

#### **Weather**

National Weather Service (NWS) reports indicate that the State of Missouri will have sunny skies throughout the State. High will be in the mid to high 90's.

#### **Point of Contact:**

The State Emergency Management Agency can be contacted at 573-526-9100 from 730am-430pm, Mon-Fri. After hours emergency calls can be made to the SEMA Duty Officer at 573-751-2748.